

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1-3 to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming process comprising the steps of:  
  
applying a first liquid for increasing the wettability of a surface of an intermediate transfer medium to the intermediate transfer medium,  
  
applying a second liquid for decreasing the flowability of an ink to the intermediate transfer medium to which the first liquid has been applied, the second liquid being substantially uniformly applied on the intermediate transfer medium due to the increased wettability of the surface of the intermediate transfer medium from applying the first liquid,  
  
applying the ink to the intermediate transfer medium, to which the first liquid and the second liquid have been applied, from an ink-jet recording head to form an image of the ink on the intermediate transfer medium, and  
  
transferring the ink image formed on the intermediate transfer medium to a recording medium.

2. (Currently Amended) An image forming process comprising the steps of:  
  
applying a first liquid for increasing the wettability of a surface of an intermediate transfer medium to the intermediate transfer medium,  
  
applying a second liquid, which reacts with an ink, to the intermediate transfer medium to which the first liquid has been applied, the second liquid being substantially

uniformly applied on the intermediate transfer medium due to the increased wettability of the surface of the intermediate transfer medium from applying the first liquid,

applying the ink to the intermediate transfer medium, to which the first liquid and the second liquid have been applied, from an ink-jet recording head to form an ink image on the intermediate transfer medium, and

transferring the ink image formed on the intermediate transfer medium to a recording medium.

3. (Currently Amended) An image forming process comprising the steps of:

applying a first liquid containing a surfactant to an intermediate transfer medium having a surface containing at least one material from among a fluororubber and a silicone rubber,

applying a second liquid for aggregating a coloring material in an ink to the intermediate transfer medium to which the first liquid has been applied, the second liquid being substantially uniformly applied to the intermediate transfer medium due to application of the surfactant contained in the first liquid,

applying the ink to the intermediate transfer medium, to which the first liquid and the second liquid have been applied, from an ink-jet recording head to form an image of the ink on the intermediate transfer medium, and

transferring the ink image formed on the intermediate transfer medium to a recording medium.

4. (Previously Presented) The image forming process according to claim 2, wherein the surface of the intermediate transfer medium contains a material containing fluorine or silicone.

5. (Previously Presented) The image forming process according to claim 2, wherein the surface of the intermediate transfer medium has a rubber hardness ranging from 10 to 100°.

6. (Previously Presented) The image forming process according to claim 2, wherein the first liquid contains a surfactant.

7. (Previously Presented) The image forming process according to claim 2, wherein a position to which the first liquid is applied is changed according to an image to be formed.

8. (Previously Presented) The image forming process according to claim 2, wherein the second liquid contains a metal ion.

9. (Previously Presented) The image forming process according to claim 2, wherein a position to which the second liquid is applied is changed according to an image to be formed.

10. (Previously Presented) The image forming process according to claim 8, wherein

the second liquid contains a surfactant.

11. (Previously Presented) The image forming process according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the first liquid, the second liquid and the ink contains a crosslinking agent.

12. (Previously Presented) The image forming process according to claim 2, further comprising a step of facilitating the removal of a solvent contained in the ink image formed on the intermediate transfer medium.

13. (Previously Presented) The image forming process according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the first liquid and the second liquid is applied by using a head of an ink-jet system.

14.-16. (Cancelled)